

OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 465

House Bill 465 would change current Idaho law to restrict health care providers of physician-patient autonomy and make it illegal to provide medically necessary care to transgender youth by charging doctors with a felony, punishable up to life in prison, for providing gender affirming healthcare.

Restrictions on Medical Decision Making Puts Medical Professionals At Risk

- This bill would prevent health care providers from following the professional ethics of the American Medical Association, the American Association of Pediatrics, and other respected scientific and medical institutions.
- Under this bill, doctors would be imprisoned for a potential life sentence because they issued the best individualized treatment for each transgender patient according to their professional medical opinion, in accordance with their Hippocratic Oath
- Doctors would be in a position where they'd have to choose to violate existing standards of medical care for transgender patients—standards that are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other leading medical authorities—or face imprisonment.

All Parents Simply Want To Do What's Right For Their Child

- [Research](#) shows that transgender youth whose families support their gender identity have a 52% decrease in suicidal thoughts, a 48% decrease in suicide attempts, and significant increases in self-esteem and general health.
- Parents of transgender children, like most parents, simply want what is best for their children, which includes working with physicians to ensure that their children are provided with the most medically appropriate treatments. It is not the government's role to be involved in this process.

Proper Medical Care Is Essential For Youth Safety

- Transgender youth who require hormone blockers are prescribed them after thorough medical examinations and diagnoses. These hormone blockers simply delay puberty until young people are old enough to make their own decisions about their lived gender. This bill aims to take away their right to self-identify and tries to prevent them from having the chance to live their true gender identity.
- Denying best-practice medical care and support to transgender youth can be life-threatening, contributing to depression, social isolation, self-hatred, risk of self-harm and suicidal behavior.
- Transgender youth are already at an increased likelihood of being targeted for bullying, harassment, and violence by their peers. Creating a systemic environment where they are denied access to medical care only reinforces this social ostracization and increases their likelihood for self-harm as a result.
- Of the 132 transgender people known to have been murdered since 2013, 80% were transwomen of color, according to a [report](#) by the Human Rights Campaign.